

# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

# Advent Sunday 27th November 2022

Welcome to St Anne's today—it is great to have you with us. St Anne's is the local Church of England parish church and we are a very diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed-

r worsnip style is quite formal, but we nope relaxea as we come to worship God in our midst.

All the words for the service will be on the screens at the front however, if you would prefer to have a printed copy in your hands, there are hymn books and service sheets at the back.



During Advent we wait for the coming of Christ, not only in the story of the Nativity, but in the hear and now. We wait for the coming of God's Reign on earth, when peace and justice will be a reality. The concepts of Advent are often difficult as they speak of judgement and end times. Equally they talk of new life beyond our understanding. As we come to this Advent Season, let us not be afraid of our waiting, or of the uncertainty it may raise. Rather we are invited in our prayer and meditation to call out 'Come, Lord Jesus, Come!'

Please stand as the bell is rung as we sing our opening Hymn 140 – Come thou long expected Jesus We meet in the name of God who is (+) Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

The President will introduce the service

As we begin the New Christian Year and the start of Advent we come before God with our prayers of confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
and to these my brothers and sisters,
I confess with my whole heart my neglect and
forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you; and raise
me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We sing together.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

We are reminded of God's forgiveness.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, (+) pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

We turn to the Advent Wreath which helps us to mark our journey through Advent. There are five candles, one for each week. The first purple candle for Advent Sunday recalls the **Patriarchs** of our faith. In some traditions it is also the candle of **Hope**.

As we turn to the Advent wreath, we sing the first verse and chorus of **Hymn 452** 

We light the first candle then pray:

God of Abraham and Sarah,

and all the patriarchs of old, you are our Father too.

Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,

Son of God and Son of David.

Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer before the collect.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen** 

**Liturgy of the Word** (please sit as the young people leave us for their lessons. We hear a reading from the Old Testament.

We hear a reading from the Old Testament. (Isaiah 2:1-5). Isaiah prophesies to a word seen, rather than heard. The prophet's language is vivid and colourful, in fact, heart-breakingly so; about the ways in which we tragically fall short of God's dream for creation. This prophetic vision (like many in the Hebrew Bible) promises a future that contradicts the people's present experiences.

The opening phrase in Isaiah 2:2 is often translated as "in the last days," which can imply an eschatological or "end-time" setting. The Hebrew, however, does not require that the fulfilment of this prophecy is possible only at the end of time. Rather, the prophet simply tells the audience that the vision he saw for Judah and Jerusalem is for a future date—a hopeful time promised amid a dire present.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 2:1-5 )

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.** 

We hear a reading from the New Testament.

In Romans 13:11–14, Paul exhorts believers to live fully into the new identity given to them through Christ's death and resurrection. This new life is a divine gift that is both a present reality and something that will only be fully realized when Christ returns. According to Paul, when someone trusts or has faith in God's gift of Christ, they are placed in right relationship with God, or "justified" (Romans 5:1). Divine salvation is thus a reality for believers in the present but will only be fully realized in the future. God's transformation of believers and of the whole creation began with Christ's death and resurrection but will only be fully realized in the

eschatological future. Thus, the gospel is not only how people are initially brought into relationship with Christ; it is also how they are to continually live out this relationship.

A reading from the letter to the Romans (Romans 13:11-14)

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We sing our **Gradual Hymn 327 – I cannot tell (omitting verse 3)** during which the Gospel is processed – please stand.

The inclusion of this passage at the head of the Gospel lectionary reminds us that Jesus' call to watch for the coming of the Messiah is not merely an Advent practice, but the normative state of readiness required of disciples.

This reading, plucked from the middle of Jesus' final sermon in Matthew, brings to a close his description of the chaos, seductions, betrayals, and violence that will threaten the unity and witness of the community of disciples as they await the coming of the Son of Humanity.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

(Matthew 24:36-44)

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.** 

We sit to listen to the sermon. After the sermon silence is kept.

We stand to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

We sit as we prayer for the Church, the World and for this community. A member of the congregation will lead these

After the biddings we pray Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

And rise in glory

At the conclusion of the prayers

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

# Liturgy of the Sacrament (please stand)

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

We share the peace with those around us in a way we are comfortable until the offertory Hymn is announced.

We sing Hymn **307 – Hills of the North Rejoice** during which a collection is taken.

As this bread was scattered and then gathered and made one, so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house; she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.** 

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The preface continues until we sing.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

After the Consecration:

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died: Christ is risen:

Christ will come again

At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer we sing **Amen.**We join in the prayer that Jesus taught his friends to say in our preferred version and language.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

We sing the Agnus Dei.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

#### The Elevation

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord (+) I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

We receive communion, during which we listen to David play. All who would normally receive are welcome to, and you may choose if you are ready to receive the chalice. We receive God's grace in one kind or two. (Please do not intinct (dip). You may also like to come forward for a blessing; and you may wish to light a candle. At the end of communion the priest will lead us in a period of silence, and then a short prayer:

# Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

We listen to notices about our community life.

We receive God's blessing for the week ahead.

The Lord be with you

# And also with you

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing and the blessing of God almighty, the (+) Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen** 

Go in the peace of Christ

#### Thanks be to God

We join in our **final hymn 699 - The Advent of our king** during which the clergy depart.

You are invited to join us for refreshments downstairs.

## Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary



**Advent,** like Lent, is a time for personal and corporate reflection on how we live our faith. In the case of Advent we are in a season of waiting. Advent waiting is not however simply about the birth of Jesus. Our Advent season waiting is also thinking ahead to Christ's future coming.

So the season is sombre, in purple and with fasting and repentance—a reminder that as Jesus came to us once, so just as surely will come again. Advent begins this year on **Sunday 27th November.** Please see the resources to support our devotion at the back of church today!

#### **Opportunities During Advent 2022**

At St Anne's we have a giving tree on the first-floor landing of the church. It is a symbolic place to be charitable during Advent and Christmas.

#### Four ways to give under the tree this Christmas:

#### 1. Laurence's Larder.

Donations of non-perishable items or cash.

#### 2. Gift Box for St Mungo's

Fill a shoe box with items that would be useful for a homeless man. Warm socks, hats, gloves, toiletries, tea bags, cup of soups. Wrap the box, or in a gift bag and place under the tree.

#### 3. Gift to St Anne's for its ministry

This Christmas you are invited to give a gift to St Anne's to help us continue our work in this place. We invite you to simply place your gift to St Anne's in the envelope provided, and place it in the basket under our Christmas tree.

#### 4. Vouchers for those in need

**Supermarket vouchers** means we can give the ability to those in need to buy what they need. Vouchers of £5 or £10 are the most useful. **OR Oyster Cards** with £5 or £10 credit are a huge help!

# **Monday Lunchtimes during Advent**

On Monday 28th November, 5th and 12th December at 12noon we will be offering an Advent reflection followed by Mass in the Church.

# Carols by Candlelight

with Queen's Park Singers—Sunday 18th December at 4pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies!

#### **Wreath Making**

This annual creative workshop will take place on **Saturday 10th December -10am until 1pm**. Come at 10am to make you own Christmas wreath or table centre piece. All materials will be provided but participants will be asked to buy their wreath.

#### Parish Christmas Party (formally Vicars Party)

**6pm -9pm** in the Rotunda on **Friday 16th December.** You are welcome to pop in for a drink or stay for the whole time. Come as you are able. A £5 donation towards cost of drinks would be welcome.

#### Laurence's Larder

You can leave your donations, tinned fish or any non-perishable food in the basket at the top of the stairs. You can see updates on this work at www.laurenceslarder.org.uk

#### Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. In October we raised £1795. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!



For our prayers—Floret, Harriet, May, Neil, Tristan, Piers, Mavis, Hada, Kay, Comfort, Joyce, Jean, Peter, Pearl, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including David Peace, Grace Burrell and Hubert Smith

# Services during the week 27th November 2022

**Monday** 12noon Eucharist with Advent reflection

**Tuesday** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

**Thursday 8.30am** Morning Prayer in Chapel

**Friday** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel

**9.30am** My Move play group

2pm Tea and Chat

Sunday 27th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel and Zoom

Advent 2 9.30am Sung Mass with Sunday School

**5pm** Zoom Service of the day

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